

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/867,846

Examiner

Dao H Nguyen

Applicant(s)

BEREZIN ET AL.

Art Unit

2818

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/15/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-7 and 12-30.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
  - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)          |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                    | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____             |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____  | 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                  |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
|  | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |

  
David Nelms  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. In response to the communications dated 10/06/2003 through 12/15/2003, claims 2-30 are active in this application as a result of the addition of claims 21-30.

### **Acknowledges**

2. Receipt is acknowledged of the following items from the Applicant.  
Correction to the drawing filed 10/06/2003 has been considered and accepted.

### **Examiner's Amendment**

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and /or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.3.12. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
4. The following cancellation has been made to the claim(s) due to the non-elected invention without traverse in Response to Restriction Requirement dated 01/31/2003:  
Cancel claim(s) 8-11.

### **Remarks**

5. Applicant's argument(s), see Paper No. 1003 and 1203, filed 10/06/2003 and 12/15/2003, with respect to the newly amended claim(s) 2-7, and 12-20, have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection of the last Office Action, in light of the amended claim(s), has been withdrawn; Furthermore, the pending claim(s) 2-7, and 12-30 are found in condition for allowance.

#### **Reason for Allowance**

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reason for allowance:

None of the references of record teaches or suggests the claimed method of operating a range finding sensor comprising (in addition to the other limitations in the claim) a plurality of photodiodes, each having first and second output ports for switchably coupling each respective photodiode to a first and a second photocarrier integrators, respectively, in a same pixel as the photodiode, wherein photocarriers generating in different photodiodes being transferred to different photocarrier integrators in different time period (claim 21-30).

Reasons for allowance of claims 2-7, and 12-20 can be found in the Amendment filed 10/06/2003 and 12/15/2003.

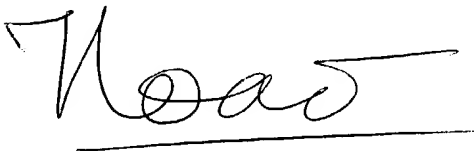
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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".


### Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dao Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-1957 (before January 08, 2004), or (571)272-1791 (after January 08, 2004). The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am – 6:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (703) 308-4910 (before January 08, 2004), or (571)272-1787 (after January 08, 2004). The fax numbers for all communication(s) is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Dao H. Nguyen  
Art Unit 2818  
December 30, 2003



David Nelms  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800